

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4-6, 12, 14-17, 19, 22 and 26 as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An information recording apparatus for recording information in a recording medium, said apparatus comprising:

a specification device for specifying a division timing in the recording information;

a recording device for recording in said recording medium front part record information that is the record information before said specified division timing and rear part record information that is the record information after said specified division timing;

a generation device for generating permission information indicating whether or not to permit at least one of said front part record information and said rear part record information to be further divided; and

[[an]] a permission information recording device for recording said generated permission information in said recording medium.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The information recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said permission information takes any one of:

a first state in which it is enabled that at least either one of said front part record information and said rear part record information is erased from said recording medium after being recorded, and that said at least one is further divided;

a second state in which it is disabled that said at least one is erased from said recording medium after being recorded, but it is enabled that said at least one is further divided; and

a third state in which it is disabled that said at least one is erased from said recording medium after being recorded, and that said at least one is further divided.

Claim 3 (Original): The information recording apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a detection device for detecting from the recording medium said permission information recorded in said recording medium;

a change device for changing the content of said detected permission information; and

an overwrite device for overwriting said changed permission information on said recording medium.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): An information recording apparatus comprising:

[[an]] a permission information detection device for detecting the permission information from a recording medium having record information and permission information indicating whether or not to permit execution of edit processing for dividing the record information into two or more items of partial record information recorded therein;

a judgment device for judging the content of the detected permission information; and

an execution device for, only when said judged content corresponds to the content in which said division processing is enabled, executing said edit processing.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The information recording apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said permission information takes any one of:

a first state in which it is enabled said partial record information after being divided is erased from said recording medium, and that the partial record information is further divided;

a second state in which it is disabled that said partial record information after being divided is erased from said recording medium, but it is enabled that the partial record information is further divided; and

a third state in which it is disabled that said partial record information after being divided is erased from said recording medium, and that the partial record information is further divided.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The information recording apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said execution device comprises:

a specification device for specifying a division timing to divide the record information;

a division device for dividing said record information into front part record information that is said record information before said specified division timing and rear part record information that is said record information after said specified division timing; and

[[an]] a permission information recording device for generating permission information having the same content as said permission information recorded in said recording medium before divided, relevant to each of said front part information and said rear part record information, and then, recording the information in said recording medium

Claim 7 (Original): The information recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said record information comprises audio information that contains at least music information and voice information.

Claim 8 (Original): The information recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said recording medium comprises a DVD capable of information recording.

Claim 9 (Original): The information recording apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said record information comprises audio information that contains at least music information and voice information.

Claim 10 (Original): The information recording apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said recording medium comprises a DVD capable of information recording.

Claim 11 (Original): An information recording method for recording information in a recording medium, said method comprising:

a specification process of specifying a division timing in the recording information;

a recording process of recording in said recording medium front part record information that is the record information before said specified division timing and rear part record information that is the record information after said specified division timing;

a generation process of generating permission information indicating whether or not to permit at least one of said front part record information and said rear part record information to be further divided; and

a permission information recording process of recording said generated permission information in said recording medium.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The information recording method according to claim 11, wherein said permission information takes any one of:

a first state in which it is enabled that at least either one of said front part record information and said rear part record information is erased from said recording medium after being recorded, and that said at least one is further divided;

a second state in which it is disabled that said at least one is erased from said recording medium after being recorded, but it is enabled that said at least one is further divided; and

a third state in which it is disabled that said at least one is erased from said recording medium after being recorded, and that said at least one is further divided.

Claim 13 (Original): The information recording method according to claim 11, further comprising:

a detection process of detecting from the recording medium said permission information recorded in said recording medium;

a change process of changing the content of said detected permission information; and

an overwrite process of overwriting said changed permission information on said recording medium.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): An information recording method comprising:

[[an]] a permission information detection process of detecting the permission information from a recording medium having record information and permission information indicating whether or not to permit execution of edit processing for dividing the record information into two or more items of partial record information recorded therein;

a judgment process of judging the content of the detected permission information; and
an execution process of, only when said judged content corresponds to the content in
which said division processing is enabled, executing said edit processing.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The information recording method according to claim
14, wherein said permission information takes any one of:

a first state in which it is enabled said partial record information after being divided is
erased from said recording medium, and that the partial record information is further divided;

a second state in which it is disabled that said partial record information after being
divided is erased from said recording medium, but it is enabled that the partial record
information is further divided; and

a third state in which it is disabled that said partial record information after being divided
is erased from said recording medium, and that the partial record information is further divided.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The information recording method according to claim
14, wherein said execution process comprises:

a specification process of specifying a division timing to divide the record information;

a division process of dividing said record information into front part record information
that is said record information before said specified division timing and rear part record
information that is said record information after said specified division timing; and

[[an]] a permission information recording process of generating permission information
having the same content as said permission information recorded in said recording medium

before divided, relevant to each of said front part record information and said rear part record information, and then, recording the information in said recording medium.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): An information recording medium comprising:
a record information area having one or plural items of recording information recorded therein; and

[[an]] a permission information recording region having permission information indicating whether or not to permit execution of edit processing for dividing said each item of recording information into one or more items of partial record information.

Claim 18 (Original): The recording medium according to claim 17, wherein said permission information takes any one of:

a first state in which it is enabled said partial record information after divided is erased from said recording medium, and that the partial record information is further divided;

a second state in which it is disabled that said partial record information after divided is erased from said recording medium, but it is enabled that the partial record information is further divided; and

a third state in which it is disabled that said partial record information after divided is erased from said recording medium, and that the partial record information is further divided.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): An information recording medium having recorded therein a recording control program for functioning a recording computer contained in an

information recording apparatus for recording target record information in a recording medium, said recording control program causing said recording computer to function as:

a specification device for specifying a division timing in the recording information;

a recording device for recording in said recording medium front part record information that is the record information before said specified division timing and rear part record information that is the record information after said specified division timing;

a generation device for generating permission information indicating whether or not to permit at least one of said front part record information and said rear part record information to be further divided; and

[[an]] a permission information recording device for recording said generated permission information in said recording medium.

Claim 20 (Original): The information recording medium according to claim 19, wherein said permission information takes any one of:

a first state in which it is enabled that at least either one of said front part record information and said rear part record information is erased from said recording medium after recorded, and that said at least one is further divided;

a second state in which it is disabled that said at least one is erased from said recording medium after recorded, but it is enabled that said at least one is further divided; and

a third state in which it is disabled that said at least one is erased from said recording medium after recorded, and that said at least one is further divided.

Claim 21 (Original): The information recording medium according to claim 19, said recording control program causing said recording computer to further function as:

a detection device for detecting from the recording medium said permission information recorded in said recording medium;

a change device for changing the content of said detected permission information; and

an overwrite device for overwriting said changed permission information on said recording medium.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): An information recording medium having a recording control program recorded therein, said recording control program causing a recording computer contained in an information recording apparatus to function as:

[[an]] a permission information detection device for detecting the permission information from a recording medium having record information and permission information indicating whether or not to permit execution of edit processing for dividing the record information into two or more items of partial record information recorded therein;

a judgment device for judging the content of the detected permission information; and

an execution device for, only when said judged content corresponds to the content in which said division processing is enabled, executing said edit processing.

Claim 23 (Original): The information recording medium having said recording control program recorded therein according to claim 22, wherein said permission information takes any one of:

a first state in which it is enabled said partial record information after divided is erased from said recording medium, and that the partial record information is further divided;

a second state in which it is disabled that said partial record information after divided is erased from said recording medium, but it is enabled that the partial record information is further divided; and

a third state in which it is disabled that said partial record information after divided is erased from said recording medium, and that the partial record information is further divided.

Claim 24 (Original): The information recording medium having said recording control program recorded therein according to claim 22, said recording control program causing said recording computer that functions as said execution device to further function as:

a specification device for specifying a division timing to divide the record information;

a division device for dividing said record information into front part record information that is said record information before said specified division timing and rear part record information that is said record information after said specified division timing; and

an permission information recording device for generating permission information having the same content as said permission information recorded in said recording medium before divided, relevant to each of said front part record information and said rear part record information, and then, recording the information in said recording medium.

Claim 25 (Original): A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and representing a series of instructions which cause a computer to perform steps to execute a recording control process in an information recording apparatus, the steps comprising:

a specification step for specifying a division timing in the recording information;

a recording step for recording in said recording medium front part record information that is the record information before said specified division timing and rear part record information that is the record information after said specified division timing;

a generation step for generating permission information indicating whether or not to permit at least one of said front part record information and said rear part record information to be further divided; and

an permission information recording step for recording said generated permission information in said recording medium.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and representing a series of instructions which cause a computer to perform steps to execute a recording control process in an information recording apparatus, the steps comprising:

[[an]] a permission information detection step for detecting the permission information from a recording medium having record information and permission information indicating whether or not to permit execution of edit processing for dividing the record information into two or more items of partial record information recorded therein;

a judgment step for judging the content of the detected permission information; and

an execution step for, only when said judged content corresponds to the content in which said division processing is enabled, executing said edit processing.